

Signage at Burlong Pool



Burlong Pool is a semi-permanent body of water located five kilometres west of the Northam Townsite. It is a site of significance to both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people of Northam. Aboriginal spiritual beliefs are that Burlong is the "Summer home for the Wargal". The site was also used as a training location in water crossings by the military and for recreational activities for the Northam community in the 1940's and 50's.

In 2009 the Avon Valley Environmental Society applied to the Avon Catchment Council (now Wheatbelt NRM) for a small Community Grant to provide signage for sites at Burlong Pool, and to provide permanent, blue metal surfaced fire breaks. Prior to the project, the site was in rough condition and being used as a place to dump building and road construction waste. This was cleaned up and landscaped, with a result of more

members of the public using the park. Signs were designed and placed in the centre of walking tracks to encourage visitors to read and study them. The signs contain a great deal of information on historical, environmental and cultural nature.

Peter Weatherly from the Avon Valley Environmental Society said, "*The park is very pleasant and is a place where local people can enjoy being surrounded by the history of their community.*" An opening ceremony celebrating the upgrades to the Burlong Pool Park area was held on Monday 19th July 2010, where the signs were unveiled.

Several community groups including Greencorp where involved restoration of Burlong Pool.

Aboriginal program funds went to ttis for big signs and for the book.

Wheatbelt NRM Small

Community Grants 2009

Recipient: Avon Valley Environmental Society

Amount Funded: \$4,211

People Involved: 15



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